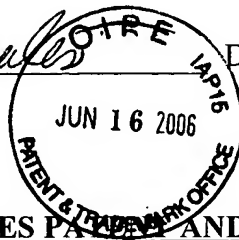


I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

BY: *Gladys E. Morales* Date: *June 14, 2006*
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Nobutoshi Chigira :
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Conf. No.: 2752 : Group Art Unit: 2852
:
Appln. No.: 10/786,522 : Examiner: Robert B. Beatty
:
Filing Date: February 25, 2004 : Attorney Docket No.: 9448-151US
:
Title: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS (G0316US)

AMENDMENT

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated December 14, 2005 and is being filed within the third month after the shortened statutory period set for a response to the Office Action. A Petition for a three-month extension of time accompanies this paper. If any additional fee is due, charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1017 (Billing No. 209448.0151).

Please amend the patent application, without prejudice, as follows:

Amendments to the Specification are on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this Amendment.

Remarks and Conclusion begin on page 13 of this Amendment.